

San Jose calls for a new, iconic public space of which her citizens can be proud. The city has always been a place where ideas and people have intersected and pushed the boundary of convention. Now, San Jose seeks a way to embody this identity – a symbol that celebrates the history, culture, and innovation for which the region is known. We believe Prism Park can become a center of engagement that brings people and perspectives together and broadcasts the city's spirit to the world.

At the heart of Prism Park is The Global Transistor. This icon embodies the historical, innovative, and multicultural essence of San Jose through physical, virtual, and symbolic aspects. The physical form is derived from the silicon molecule – the element that catalyzed the city's modern growth. However, as with the actual city, the sculpture only sets the foundation. Innovation is the city's triumph, and we hope to honor it by utilizing augmented reality. The silicon statue gives anchor to an interactive holographic globe that can be seen either via a special smartphone app or through special virtual panels located within the plaza making it accessible to any visitor. Visitors will be able to use the globe to share their story through geography. Whether it's where they live, where they're from, or just somewhere they'd like to go, the user will be able to add a pin on their device that will in turn light up on the globe. This not only creates opportunities for story sharing and engagement but also reflects the great multicultural diversity of San Jose. As a final touch of symbolism, the icon is connected to a circuit of LEDs embedded in the plaza surface that reach out into the city – a salute to the city's technological prowess, merging of cultures, and the sense of unity the design hopes to foster.

However, an icon can only achieve so much on its own. In order for Prism Park to become a meaningful piece of San Jose, we developed nodes of engagement around this icon that support an abundance of experiences and foster the sharing of culture. The interplay between these activities helps to expand the influence of the icon beyond the confines of the project boundaries into the community at large - Prism Park aims to celebrate not only San Jose, but also the world!